Ah...
HOTEL JOY
Kanzaki...!!
...
Kirie-hima... Kun?

#115 INTERROGATION @ CAFÉ AMAMI

No way. We just saw something crazy!
Who is he?!
Do you know him, Nanami-Chan?!
Um... This is...
Who is she?
...
Wh-What?
Hey...!
Ah...
Her name's Amaya, and she's my friend from school.
We're only here because of...
You said you wouldn't tell!
About the manga!!

In any case, there's a reason...
Um... Well...
Uh...
...
You're the worst...
SCREAM
...!
...!!
Hey!
Wait, Nanami-chan!!
STEP
K-Kan-zaki!!

Was that girl your friend?
...She was. Yeah.
I don't want people to know.
Wouldn't you feel bad if something embarrassing happened to me?
This isn't good.
I can't believe this is happening...
She totally thinks I'm cheating...
Clearly! since I let something bad happen to me...
Ha ha ha, nice one!
Shut up!!
You'll be fine! well, I'm busy.
Remember to keep my secret!!
DASH
Wait... Amaya!!
Tell me how it turns out!
I bet it'll make good material for my manga!

HOTEL JO
There's no excuse can make without telling them about the manga...
What am I supposed to do?
That bitch...
...
It'll turn into an ev en bigger problem if I don't tell every-one...
But...
Kanza-ki!
神崎七瀬
Kanami Kanzaki
ブルルル ブルルル
...?!
Y-Yes.
Hello...
Can you come to cafe amami at 7:00?
Huh...?

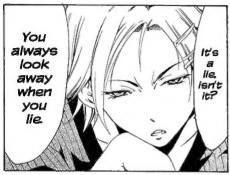
I THOUGHT I'D AT LEAST LISTEN TO WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY...
...!
I'LL DECIDE IF I'M GOING TO TELL ASUKA-CHAN AFTER THAT.
7:00, right?!
Got it!!
I'll explain everything!! I...Later!!
CLAP
パターン
Okay!
This might still work out!!
CAFE RESTAURANT AMAMI
カフェ・レストラン
天見
カラン カラン
JINGLE JINGLE
Wel-come!
K... Kan-Zaki!!

BOOM
What?!
They're all here?!
What? did you think it would be just me?
Hurry up and sit down.
Ah... Okay.
Th-Thanks for coming out. Excuse me...
...
...So?
Who invited whom to the hotel?
What...
We have to start with that?

Did you want to make small talk?
...What?
TWITCH
DRIP
...No.
SORRY...
DRIP
Amaya's... the one who invited me...
And you went along with her.
I see...
W-We really didn't do anything!!
She had a reason for being there...
Um...
Oh...
Why don't you tell us, then?
What was it?
CLENCH
I...

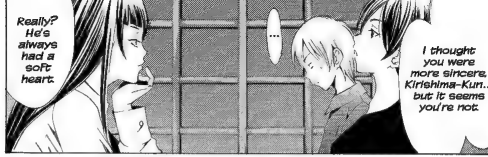
I'm s-sorry...
I'm the one who invited her...
I want to take Asuka to a love hotel, so I asked her to check it out with me...

...
What...?


It's a lie, isn't it?
You always look away when you lie.

...Ah.
This isn't good... My lies won't work against them!

What kind of idiot takes a friend to check out a love
That's a terrible excuse! Are you messing with us?!
CRASH
Wait!...
Calm down, Asakura!!


Really? He's always had a soft heart.
...
I thought you were more sincere, Kirishima-kun... but it seems you're not.

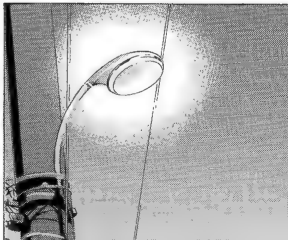
!!!
GRAB
The kind of person who falls for a childhood friend over nothing more than a kiss.

...Ah.
Wait... Kiyomi-Chan!!
What are you talking about?
When did that happen!?
Hey...
Wow, really? That's cute!!!
I... I think it was in preschool!! My cousin Rie-Chan said she would marry me!!

Oh?
That idiot!! What is she saying?!

...Just now...
...you were looking away...
Th-that's not true!
Right, Akari?!
Y-Yeah, I think he was telling the truth!

Too...
Marry of them...
ドーン
DOOM
RUNAWAY MODE REACTIVATED



...
I'll explain the situation to Asuka...
Wait to tell her until tomorrow!!
They accepted that for the time being...
...but what I am supposed to tell Asuka?
She'll never believe I went to check it out before going with her...
STEP!
No matter what excuse I use...
...it doesn't change the fact I went to a love hotel...
Haruto?

Asuka...
...!!
What are you doing out so late?
You must be cold in those thin clothes. I bought some pork buns. Do you want one?
Uh...
Huh
They're jumbo pork buns!
You like these, don't you?
スキッ
TWINGE

I don't want to lie to her...!!
I can't do it...
No...
Why are you making that face
Is it my fault?
...went to a love hotel with amaya...
...!...
I can't tell you why, but... she really wanted me to go, and...
B-but, believe me!! We really didn't do anything! It wasn't like that!!
What?

...!
WHISH
!!
Here.
Take half.
もぐ
CHEW
もぐ
CHEW
...
What?

Aren't you going to eat?
It won't be good when it's cold.
B-But...
I went...
...to a love hotel...
But you didn't do anything, right??
Wa!
I didn't but
Who cares, then?
If there's some reason you can't explain, I won't ask you to.
...
Why are you being so accepting...?
Huh?
TOUCH

Because I trust you...
Haruto.
...
...
Yeah!
Sure!

What...?
Asuka-chan said that?
Yeah...
I guess...
She said she wouldn't make me tell her if I couldn't, and that she trusted me...
I'm glad I was honest with her. I thought she would understand...
CLINK
カラン
There's no way that's true.
Huh?

Even though we're old friends, I still can't believe you!!
BANG
Do you really think there's a girlfriend who would accept that?!
He can't tell her why, but he claims he didn't do anything...!
Her boyfriend want to a love hotel with another woman...
BANG
BANG
BANG
Listen up...
B-But she really did say it was okay...
...
She's only enduring it...
...because she likes you.
Well, if Asuka-chan says it's okay, I won't say anything else.
...
But if you accept what she said at face value, she'll turn cold on you eventually.

I don't know what's going on with you...
...but you should think of your girlfriend a little more.
Y... Yeah.
GLANCE
Huh... What do you mean?
B-By the way, are things about us okay?
I heard you told Asuka-chan...
!!
How I kissed you... and you fell for me...
Maybe Asuka-chan's worried about that, too...
You know.
Uh...
UM...
R-Really! That's Fine. then You surprised me.
Th-That was just for a moment! Asuka knows that, too!

Seijo
A town where you live
1
#1-16-A WEIRD DATE

...
Because I trust you...
...Haruto.
...But I guess I'd be mad if someone did that to me.
CHIRP
CHIRP
I'd been feeling relieved after she said that...
You should think of your girlfriend a little more.
She'll turn cold on you eventually.
I've been spending all my time with Amaya and ignoring Asuka entirely.
At this rate, she might really...

CASIO
ROAR
S-
B----
O-
1 2 3 4 5
C 0 0 0
G 0 0 0
0 1 0
0 3 1
MITSUBISHIオーロラビジョン

Huh...
Yeah...
You're right...
Man.
I'm really glad there were tickets left for sale on the day of the game!!

Huh?! Uh... No reason...
What's wrong with you, Haruto? Suddenly inviting me on a date.

I, I guess so.
Wh-What's wrong? don't you like baseball, Asuka?

The dome's close by.
I've been wanting to go to a night game with you...

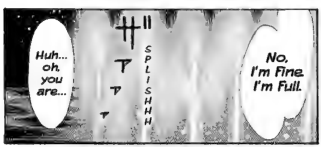
But she's always so busy with practice. this is the only free time she has...
Maybe bringing her here so soon was kind of weird.

Ah. I See.

...Oh! By the way, are you hungry? you haven't eaten yet, right?
HUH... Yeah...

You wanted to see a night game, right?
Don't worry about that. Let's just watch the game.
It's okay. you don't need to do that.
Wait here! I'll go buy some-thing at a vendor!!
You should watch the game!
N-No, that's all right!
...
Haruto!
DASH
TOKYO DRA
TRO

Shouting like that for the first time in a while tired me out.
Do you want to get tea some-where?


No, I'm fine. I'm full.
SPLISHHH
Huh... oh, you are...

I-Let's wander around this area, then!!
The lights are really pretty!
...Um.

Kenta Maeda and Kenta Kurihara, pitcher and first baseman for the Hiroshima Toyo Carp.
What a good game. Maeken shut them out and Kurihara got three runs. No complaints from me!
You're right.

Did something actually happen...?
With Shiori-Chan...?
...
Huh...?
You're acting weird, Haruto!
You're suddenly inviting me on dates and being so nice, it's creepy!

I can't help but think you're up to no good!
What?
I-it's not like that! I told you, nothing happened!!
Then why are you acting like this?!
Some-thing's not right here!
You see...
Um...
A...
SCUFF
She said you probably didn't believe me
...
That you're just enduring it because you like me
Akari...
Told me...
...What

That if I took what you said at face value...
...You would turn cold on me...
...
...Is that why...
...You tried to make me feel better?
Of course I did!!
Anyone would panic after hearing that!!
...
SMIRK
Hmm...
Akari-Chan might be right.
No way!!

Huh?
Yeah.
I told you yesterday. If there's some reason, I won't make you tell me.
I trust you.
But only about me liking you.
B... But...

I feel uncertain sometimes, you know.
When you told me you went to a love hotel...
But...
I know...
....Just how much you care about your friends...
So there must really be a reason you can't tell me.
I'm not enduring anything. don't worry.
Asuka.
Besides...

There's no way someone who still can't do anything with his girl-friend...
...Would do anything even if someone made a move on him.
....!!
Wha...
Th- That's because we were busy with entrance exams and stuff... You had tournaments and stuff, too, so I didn't want to get in your way...
I... I didn't want to make things weird between us. I was just being polite!
There you go again. You just don't have the balls, do you?
...What?!
TOKYO D

That's not true!!
Let's go to a love hotel right now, then!!
...What?
...
...Ah.

I just wanted you to know I've got the guts to do it...
No... That's not what I meant!
...
It's not like... uh...
...
S... sorry.
...we have to go right away...
Huh?
Why are you sorry?

...I don't mind.
If you want to go...
But...
No...
I love you.
...Like I said.

Wait, Haruto.
What are you doing?
STEP
ㅈㅓㅂ
...
ㅈㅓㅂ
STEP
B-But someone just walked by when we tried to go in!!
Why are you pacing in front of the love hotel? It's embarrassing.
She suddenly brought me here, so I didn't have time to think about it...
I need to mentally prepare myself before I can go in...
You came this far. It's pathetic. You went in with Shiori-chan, didn't you?
I don't want this kind of boy-friend!!
You're use-less!!
I'm not use-less!!

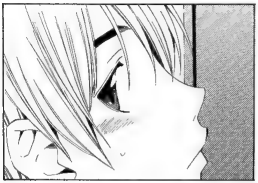
#117 ...RIGHT?

バタン
SLAM

Y-Yeah, you're right!!
Ah, the door!! Lock the door!!
CLICK
カチャ

Yeah.
We... made it in...

We got it.
Yeah.
I Feel like... we're doing something wrong.
I-Is that so?
It feels normal to me...
I meant, we are going out...


...
Yeah...
You're right...

Ah...!
Do you want some juice?! Shouting must have made you thirsty!!
Y-Yeah, it's on me, then!
You paid for the tickets to the game!!

CLUNK
カリ
200円
HARUTO, WHAT DO YOU WANT?!
200円
400円
UH...
I'LL HAVE A COLA

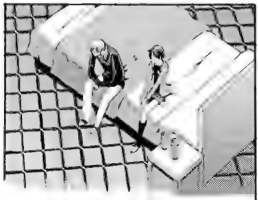
...
WHAT'S UP...?

!!

Huh..?
They've got stuff besides juice..

Must be.
Are those..
adult toys?

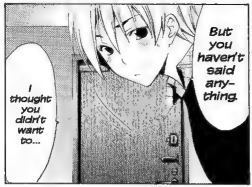
150



I-I'll buy it.
What?!
No!! The juice, the juice!!
O-Oh.. the juice

...Um.

If you don't want to do it, we don't have to.
We could just stay...
What?


But you haven't said anything.
I thought you didn't want to...

I wouldn't come here if I didn't want to...
What are you saying!?

CLATTER
カタ
?!
Oh, come on!! That's because you won't say anything!!

It's the first time...
...For me...
Asuka...
OF course I don't know what to do.
...Idiot.

SWISH
CREAK
Sorry... It's my first time, too, and I have no idea what I'm doing...
Ah.

Don't worry about that...
I'm the one who's not very impressive...

Listen, my...
bust is really small...
I'm sorry if I disap-point you...

What am I saying?!
What an awful joke!!

Ah!!
I mean...
...What?

I'll be out soon!!
Oh!
I-I'm going to take a shower!! I worked up a sweat!!
O-Okay.
...
Why don't we..
um...
...shower together...?
HUH?
The...two of us...?
Yeah.
SPLISHHH
APP

I'm a chicken!!
SPLISHHH
...For me...
It's the first time...
...
But I can't do it!!
Just thinking about taking a bath with her nearly made my heart stop!!
It'd be so embarrassing, I'd die!!
Acchi-y...
It must've been way more embarrassing for her...
saying that...

Your boyfriend isn't useless!!
CREAK
I'll take the lead once I'm out!!
SPLISHHH
Sorry, Asuka!!
SLAM
...take a shower, too...
I'll wait for you...
You should...
um...
I...
I'm out...
...
Asuka...
H-Hey.
IF you've got time to look at your phone, hurry up and...

Hey... You're asleep!!
What?!
SNORE
SNORE
Hey! Wake up!!
SHAKE
SHAKE
Nn...
HNGGG...
Now that I think of it...
...it's way after she usually goes to sleep.

I've been dragging her around all night since she got out of practice.
Of course she's tired...
Thanks for spending time with me today...
...Asuka.

STEP
STEP

STEP
STEP

I'm sorry..
It's fine. Don't worry about it.
It's my fault. For inviting you out when you were tired.

But...

It was fun for me, like a little trip...
Besides, it was our first time spending the night out together.

...

When we do...
I'll be awake...
so...
...Right?

Let's go on a real trip next time.
I'll make some time...
What? Oh... Sure...

WHOOSH
O-Okay, I'd better start working and save up some money!
Yeah! I'll do what I can to help...

...
S-Sure...

Huh...?
What?
...
Oh.
The weather's nice again today
Hey...
You're right.
H-Hey, wait!
We didn't do anything this time either!
That's right!
It's true!

A town where you live
#118 I HAVE A GIRLFRIEND!

A town where you live

旭湯
ガチャ
CLICK
Yeah?
ピンポーン
DING DONG
Give me a break. It's still early...
ピンポーン
DING DONG
Hm?

Hey!
Good morning!!
...Asuka.
Were you still asleep? Your hair's a mess.
Who cares? I don't have class until this afternoon.
Anyway, what are you doing here this early?
You haven't had breakfast yet, have you?
Well... No.
In that case, here!
RUSTLE
Huh... What's this?

Come on, hurry up! I'm hungry!!
Okay, okay. Come on in and wait.
What?
I had some vegetables delivered from home.
Make something with these. For me, too!
Huh.
I see.
Where's Aoi-san? Did she already go to work?
WHUMP
Yeah. She left early because she had a meeting today.
Your first class is third period, right?
Let's head to campus together before noon.
Yeah?
Oh, right.
Hey, Haruto.

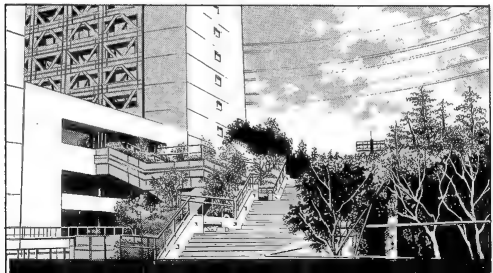
THUNK
ゴトン
BLUSH
A good morning kiss...
You have this week's magazine! Did you already read it, Haruto?!
No...

Let's go on a trip. I'll make some time...
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
Where did that come from? She surprised me...
She's never done anything like that before...
When we do... I'll be awake... so...
...Right?
...
So let's go on a trip together...
L-Listen. I'll find a job soon and start saving money...

Wow!! He hit the first big league ball!
...
...Huh?
Hey...
Look at Hana-gata!!
FLASH
Look at this amazing hit!!
I told you not to spoil it!!
Isn't that the end of the last chapter?!
Wrong! It's the second to last page!!

Stop that!! You're doing it on purpose, aren't you?!
FLIP
Don't worry! Hyuma's amazing before that, too!!
Look!!
Don't be ridiculous! I got a good look at it!!

...!!
...!!
...!!



Come on, don't be so angry. You're such a child, getting upset over manga.
Shut up.
I can't believe you spoiled Ippo and A-BOUT.
Be-sides, you...
The cherry blossoms are beautiful.
I wonder IF they're going to fall soon...
Damn it...
You're cute...
...
What?
Is some-thing wrong?
It's nothing! IF you don't hurry up, we'll be late!

DASH
Hey!!
Huff...
It really is you, Kirishima!!
I'm glad I found you!!
Ah...
What do you want?
Um... Ichikawa-senpai.
It's Ichikawa!!
It's the smarmy guy from the tennis club.
That's not important. Are you free this evening?!
Well, I don't have anything planned.
It's decided then!!

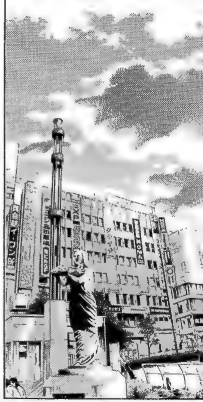
...What?
BAM
Let's go to a mixer!!
A mixer!! Do you understand!?
Okay, okay. I didn't explain it clearly enough!
I understand what you're saying, but where did that come from?
What?!
No way!!
Please. If my seniors find out I messed up the day of the mixer, they'll beat me up!
We're having a Four-on-Four mixer tonight, but someone can't make it.
We need you for the numbers. Can you show up for a little while?!

I told you, I can't!
Why not?!
Why not? You don't have anything to do, right?! You can leave whenever you want, so just show up in the beginning! Okay?!
I'm definitely not going!!
Because I have a girlfriend!!
1 1 /
HUH?
Now that you mention it, that girl who's been standing there...
She's my girlfriend.
U-Hello.
...Ah, this won't do.
Sorry for bothering you.
STEP

I don't mind.
Why don't you go?
What are you talking about? It's a mixer!
TURN
Oh?! Is this a turn-around?!
But...
...try to come home early, okay?
But he needs help. If you're just there for the numbers, why don't you go?
Hey...
Listen here!!
I... I'm not...
Leave it to me!! I'll take responsibility for sending him home!!

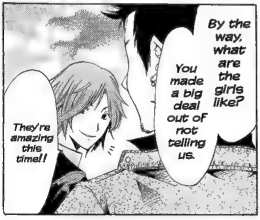
Thanks.
Well, I've got class!
Hey!!
Asuka!!
GRAB
It's decided! It's a perfect decision!!
You've got a nice girl-friend, don't you?!
You'd better treat her well!
What are you talking about?!

GRUMP
ぶすー



Hey, are you sure you should have brought him, Icchi?
Hey, Kirishima... Try to look like you're having fun. You're scaring the girls. Try to look like you're having fun. You're scaring the girls.

Don't worry.
I'll be good once the mixer starts.


They're amazing this time!!
You made a big deal out of not telling us.
By the way, what are the girls like?

This amazing mixer's finally happening.
Are you sure? I'm counting on you, seriously.

Whoa!! Seriously?! I'm glad I came!!
...
They're members of the Otowa Girls' College tennis club!!
And they're all at least upper high-level girls!!
IF I get a cute girl, I might dump my girlfriend!!
Now, now...
That might actually happen.
You mean it?!
Thanks for waiting, Icchi! Sorry we're late! One of the girls was late!!
Oh! We've been waiting for you!! Let's go, then!!
Good grief...
Time to turn it on...

...What?

Eba... Is that you?
...!
Haruto-kun...!

A town where you live

#119 ON THE NIGHT OF THEIR REUNION

Is the place around here?
No. It's on an intersection at Meiji Road. It's a short walk.
SEIBU FITNESS CLUB
Did you come here after practice?
Yeah, that's right.

Ah...
...

Um...
...

Huh..?
Yeah..
SEIBU FITNESS CLU
You...
seem to have... make-up...

I told you. It's not like that...
I know there are cute girls here, but you're getting too excited.
Let's go.

What are you talking about?
What kind of idiot would come to a mixer without make-up?
What...!? B-But it's the first time I've seen her with..

4F
星の雫
3F
2F

...
Come on, let's go.
Ah... Okay.

I'll be running this mixer today.
I'm Seijo College's idol Icchi, a.k.a. Kosei Ichihara. Nice to meet you.
You're so cool, Icchi!
Don't interrupt me.
Ha ha ha!!

Let's start by having the men introduce themselves!
...

What a crazy coincidence.
I never thought I'd meet Eba at a mixer...
But...
CLINK
...people sure do change a lot when you don't see them for a year...

Hey, Kirishima!
It's your turn!!
Huh?
Introduce yourself!!
Oh...
Um...
I'm Kirishima...
!!
That's it!! You can do better than that!!
...
You're bringing everyone down. Act more excited.
He seems kind of gloomy.
Oh... Okay.
This isn't good!! I'm completely ruining the mood!!
GIGGLE
...!!
DOOM
Now I've made her laugh!!

Wh-What should I do!? I can't say we used to date...
Huh?! Um...
Huh...
You two have been acting friendly towards each other.
Do you know each other?
Th-The truth is...
We're from the same high school
CLUNK
He's my ex-boyfriend's friend.
What? What a crazy coincidence!!
You must have been surprised when you saw him today!
Yeah, it's been a year...

Oh, my ex went to high school with Haruto-kun.
I met him a couple of times then.
Huh... But didn't Kirishima-kun just say you went to the same high school?
Yuzuki-chan didn't you go to a girls' school?
SLUMP
We're meeting for the first time in a year, and she calls me her ex's friend...
That's practically strangers.
Well, it is true...

Eba's being smart.
Oh, right.
Saying we went to the same high school makes things difficult to explain.

So...
...
I was about to ruin the mixer...
...but it looks like Eba saved it...
CHATTER
It's happened to me, too.
I ran into a middle school classmate around town.
Well, who doesn't?!
CHATTER
Ha ha, really?!

I should probably head home soon.
It's 9:00...

Yeah!!
Since we're just getting excited, let's go for a second round!

Hey, sorry. I've got something to do, so I'm heading out.
What?
No Way...

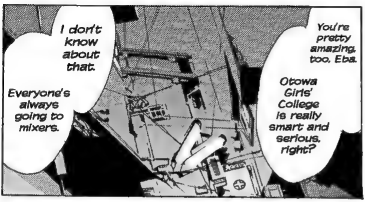
Oh, jeez.
I think I'm a little drunk.
What are you talking about? You can keep going!
What do you want to do after this?

Kirishima's got a cute little girlfriend.
Let him go.
Come with us, Haruto-kun.
It's only 9:00.
Sorry. I didn't tell you, but this guy's only here to even out the numbers.
Who cares? There're still seven of us!
Sorry...
What? Really?
I'm so disappointed.
I had a lot of fun. I hope you'll invite me again!
N-No! My curfew's just strict, so I need to go...
What?! Yuzuki-chan are you seeing someone, too?!
Sorry, but I'm leaving soon, too.

Fine, then.
I'll invite you next time.
Well, now it's three-on-three.
I guess we're kind of lucky.
Ha ha ha! Ichi, you're so positive!
Later, Kirishima. Say hi to your girlfriend for me.
Yeah.
Be careful on your way home, you two.
Let's go partway together.
You're going to the station, right?
Yeah.
You're right.

Yeah. I got an A on my practice test.
I see. You're attending Seijo College.

CLICK
CLICK


I don't know about that.
Everyone's always going to mixers.
You're pretty amazing, too, Eba.
Otowa Girls' College is really smart and serious, right?

Wh.. What's wrong?
Ah.

Ha ha. I know.
Same here.
I don't usually go to mixers.
Just so you know, I only came today because they begged me to.

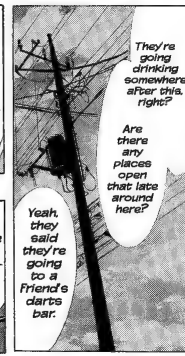
Really? You seemed to be able to talk pretty normally to me.
I meant to try harder, but I got so worked up, I don't remember what we talked about.
That was my first mixer.

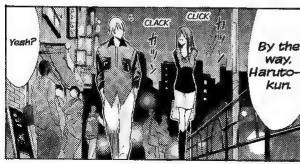
Well, it doesn't make me feel like drinking, though. Beer's just bitter.
You're right. I kind of know what you mean.
Honestly, I can't keep up with that.
That's not true at all!
We can't drink yet, so we were sober the whole time.

He's surprisingly lightweight, isn't he?
Did you notice Icchi-senpai was drinking pretty sweet drinks?
Like Cassis and Oranges and Kahlua Milks.

He seems like a heavy-weight at first glance.
I wasn't really paying attention, but wow.

That's how people end up dropping classes and spending an extra year in school.
They'll probably stay out all night and skip their classes tomorrow.


They're going drinking somewhere after this, right?
Are there any places open that late around here?
Yeah they said they're going to a friend's darts bar.


Yeah?
CLACK
CLICK
By the way, Haruto-kun.

You have a girl-friend.
Huh?
Uh...
Well, yeah! You should try to find a boy-friend.
Don't look down on me! It irke me!

STEP
カッ

Ha ha... You're right.
I'll be all right. My place is right there...

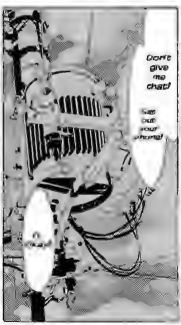
Well, I'm this way...
Take care.
Yeah...
You, too.

...
Well...

DASH
I see...
I changed my number. I got a new phone.
Ah...! By the way, Haruto-kun.

What?
So, here.
Let's trade numbers!

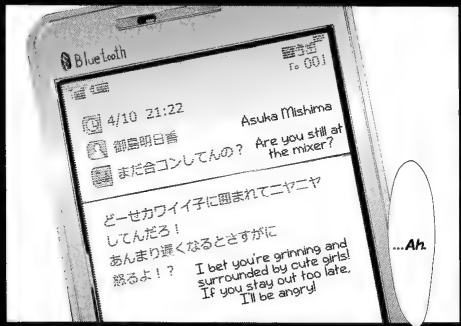
Yeah.
Did you get it?


Don't give me that!
Let me see your phone!

Is your number still the same?
Yeah.
Okay.

Sorry for stopping you.
See you later.
CLICK
CLICK
Eba...
I see.
She changed her number.

Whoa!!
She's texting me already?!
BZZZ
BZZZ


Bluetooth
To 00j
4/10 21:22
Asuka Mishima
御島明日香
Are you still at the mixer?
まだ合コンしてんの？
どーせカワイイ子に囲まれてニヤニヤしてんだろ！
あんまり遅くなるとさすがに怒るよ！？
I bet you're grinning and surrounded by cute girls! If you stay out too late, I'll be angry!
...Ah.

It's okay! I'll be home soon!!
O-OF course not!!

A town where you live

#120 MORE THAN YOU THINK

What?!
You went to a mixer?!

Yeah.
Ichihara-senpai invited me.
They didn't have enough people, so he asked me to come...

What...
Damn it. That's not fair.
You have a girl-friend. I'm going to tell Asuka-chan!!

What?! I'm in the tennis club, and no one mentioned any mixer!
I had nothing to do yesterday! Why didn't they invite me?!
Don't ask me...

What?!
Asuka's the one who told me to go.
THUD

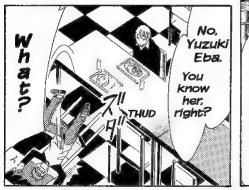
S-Seriously... Just how open-hearted is she...
Ichihara-senpai needed help... She told me to help him so he had enough people.

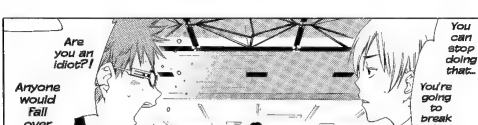
Hey, are you okay!? Your reactions are a little much.
Kind of old-fashioned, too.
CLATTER
Is there really a girl-friend in the world as accepting as yours?

So, how was it?
Were there any cute girls?

...
"Eva"...?

Yeah, actually.
Eba was there.
...What?


What?
No, Yuzuki Eba.
You know her, right?
THUD

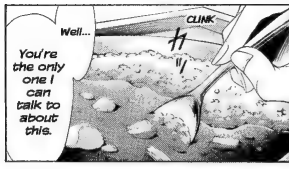

Are you an idiot?!
Anyone would fall over after hearing that!
You can stop doing that...
You're going to break the chair.

No... I didn't react that much.
You're right.
You must've fallen over pretty hard, too.

...
Tokyo's smaller than we thought, huh...

Huh?
But... um...
You must be feeling pretty conflicted...

I wasn't as shocked as you, but I was sur-prised.
I didn't expect her to go to mixers.


Well...
You're the only one I can talk to about this.
CLINK

...

Honestly, I had been wondering about it...
How would I feel about her if I met her again?

Why don't you keep going and tell me what you felt?
I promise I won't tell Asuka-chan
Yeah.
The thing is...
You were so deeply in love with her that you trans-Ferred...
...

I was surprised by...
...how little I felt.
Huh... You didn't feel anything?
Nope...
You don't understand...
You're still just a kid.
Huh?
Well, it's been almost two years since she rejected me.
It's no surprise. It's normal to forget about someone after that long.
CHATTER
CHATTER
According to my experience, the only time you stop caring about a girl you used to like...
...is when you find a girl you like even more.

You must love Asuka-chan now...
...Far more than you think.
That's...
...all there is to it.
Who knows? It's hard to be objective about yourself.
But I realized something just now...
It's really creepy when you talk about love. Don't do it anymore.
What?!
THUD
ROLL
BOOM

Well...
...what about the South Pole?!

...What?

Give it some serious thought.
I MEAN IT!!
I want to see the aurora and penguins!!

You're the one who said you could only get one day off from practice!!
How are we supposed to spend just one night in the South Pole?!
What? I'm sure you can get to the South Pole in half a day.
Like hell you can!!
N-No way! I don't want to go overseas!!
It's a big step, and I can't speak the language!!
You said you wanted to go to the South Pole five seconds ago.
...Oh.
Where can we go, then?
MOOK
東京ディズニーリゾート
Well, let's see. What about Korea?
You can go from Haneda now, and we'll be able to do plenty in just one night.
Hey, what about this?!
"Hokkaido Snow Festival Tour Trip"!!
H-Hokkaido?

So what?! I want to play in the snow some more!
Why do you want to go somewhere cold during a cold season?! That's the same as going back home!
What?!
Why would we be getting naked at night...
No way!!
Besides, you'll catch a cold IF you get naked at night!
...
SLURP
...Oh.

W-Well, I... um...
Listen... Is that all you've been thinking about?
Sheesh...
...
...No.
SWISH
Um...
S-Sorry...
CREAK
Huh?
I told you...

You don't have to apologize, since we're dating.
You're my boy-friend.
Y...
Yeah...
The only time you stop caring about a girl you used to like...
...is when you find a girl you like even more.
Where will we go, then?
Does a night in Okinawa sound too boring?

Huh?
Look...
...
More than you know...
I...
...really love you...
Huh?
I know that.
Yeah.

Would you be shocked...
...if I said that?
What?!
Well, I don't.
CLATTER
Ha ha ha ha! You're mad!!
Shut up!!
BUMP
OF course I would be!!
OF course I'd be shocked!!
Wha...!!
RAGE

WHAM! THUMP
スタァァン

Woah...
Ah...!

I'm sure they're just fighting again.
Right Goro-chan?
Meow.
They're making so much noise. What are they doing at this hour?

I've always wanted to go there!
We're going to the Hakone hot springs next.
I'm so excited!

What? No way. You look like you're up to something.
Icchi-sanpai, take me to a mixer.

...Oh, it uses orange peel.
Let's see...
Cinnamon powder, and...

You should be more careful...
Oh... There, there.
I just...
S-Sorry.
It'll stain if we don't clean it up soon.
You spilled some tea...

Won't you get in trouble with Aoi-san?
Don't just sit there.
Yeah...
...
Huh?
She was talking about replacing the carpet soon, anyway.
S-So...
...
Um...
...
Yeah.
I guess it would be...
Okay.

I'm home! Is dinner ready?!
SLAM
Ah.
...
What?!
NO...
Sorry for intruding.
Hey, wait!!
We haven't done anything yet!!

#121 PASSING BY DESTINY

Yes, that's correct. The food prep assistant position, not the head position...
What? No... I don't have a license.
but I was fine without one when I worked at a restaurant at home...
Ah...
Yes.
I see...
I get it.
Yes...
Excuse me.
CLAP
Th-They turned you down again...
Yeah, that's the twelfth place...
No one will hire me without a culinary certificate. Tokyo's so stingy.
I see.

I wanted to work in the food industry, but I have no choice.
FLIP
I'll take any job I can do after school!
FLIP
Resume
L-Look, you don't have to find a job.
HUH?
Friend
Well...
I'm starting to feel bad about this...
What are you talking about? Don't you want to go on a trip?
Yeah, but I can't make you work by yourself.
Don't worry about it... I don't have anything to do on weekends anyway.
IF it really bothers you, you can pay for me once you find a job.
A job... That's four years from now.
Yeah, I know...

Eh?

We'll be together, right?
Even then...

Who cares, then?
W-Well, yeah.
We'll be together.

Okay, I'll rely on my boyfriend for now!
Hey, why don't you work at a convenience store?!
A what store?!
You can work late and it pays well...
...!

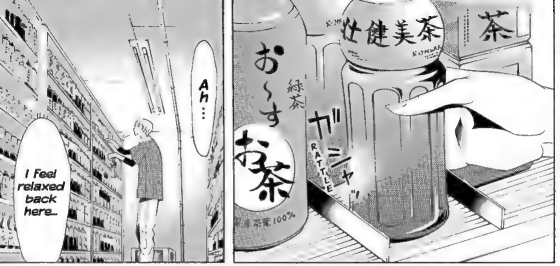
Destiny
AKIHABARA
Gourmet Shop
ORIGINAL BREAD
オリジナルブレッド

QUO
桐島
...

Sorry... It's my first time interacting with customers.
Ha ha, don't worry about it.
No one pays attention to the cashiers.
O-Okay...

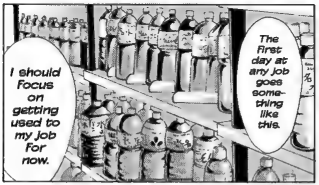
Huh...
Relax a little more, Kirishima-kun. You'll scare the customers.

...standing on this side makes me really nervous.
I took the job because Asuka said it was easy, but...
Y-Yes!! Sorry... um...
SPIN
Hey! Did you hear me?!
Well, I've come this far. I can't quit now.
Y... Yeah.
I get it.
I told you...
I've already explained most of what you need to know.
IF you have any questions, just ask someone.
Kirishima-kun, great timing.
Ah..!
Come on in!!
Destiny
AKIYAMA
DING DONG
DING DONG
DING DONG


Ah…
I feel relaxed back here…
お～す
お茶
緑茶
ガシャ
RATTLE
茶
健美茶

well…

It got pretty crowded in the evening.
I was so slow, I needed someone to help me.


The first day at any job goes something like this.
I should focus on getting used to my job for now.

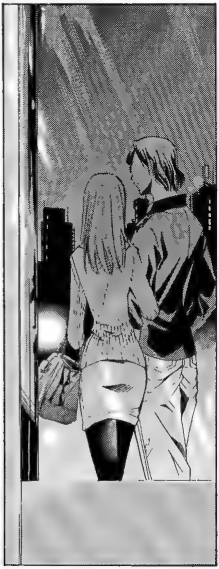
Could you take over the register, then?
I'm going to take a break.

Yes, I just finished.
CLICK
ガチャ
Hey, did you finish refilling the juice?

What? You want me to do it myself?!
You'll be fine. We don't get many customers at this hour.
If you have any problems, just push the call button and I'll be there.
Right.
Please confirm your age.
BEEP
Thank you.
CREAK
...
Whew...
That'll be 410 yen. Would you like a bag?
No, thanks. Here's the exact change.
JINGLE
YAMIYAMA
Gourmet Store
ORIGINAL BREAD
オリジナルブレッド

DRINK
I can actually do it if I try.
At this pace, I'm pretty sure I can handle this by myself.

...Huh.
That girl kind of looked like Yuzuki...



...with a guy...?
And...

Excuse me.
Ah...! Sorry!!

Ah!
It is you, Haruto-kun!
?!
CLATTER
Eba!!
You...
What?!
When did you...
I was standing by the magazines for a while. You didn't notice?
I...
See...
I'm surprised, though. I didn't know you were working so close to my place.
Y-Yeah, it's close to school, too.

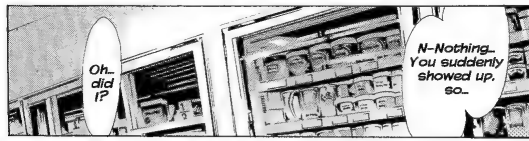
Well, what about you?
You're out pretty late, even for practice.
Another mixer?
N-No! I went shopping and to dinner with some friends...
I'm not in the club, anyway!
I really only went last time because someone asked me to go!!
O-Okay, I get it. You don't have to yell.
Hmph
But...
That'll be 983 yen.
Huh?

Let's see...
I guess I'll get vanilla.
DASH
Oh... Sorry. I forgot to buy ice cream!
HEY!
Hey! I already pushed the suetocai button.
...
She may look like an adult...
...but she hasn't changed very much on the inside.

RUSTLE
Thank you.
...
STARE
Wh-What?
You know...
...you should probably try to smile more.
You look scary-
Later.
Hey...!
Wait!
I-I KNOW.
...!

...Sheesh.
CLICK
Huh...

What's wrong with you?
You're really freaking out...
Wh-What are you doing here?!
Uh...
At this hour?!
A-Asuka!!
That looks pretty good on you.


Oh... did I?
N-Nothing... You suddenly showed up, so...

...
Should I not have come?
I... see...
I was having dinner with some of my seniors.
It was close by, and you said you got off work at 10, so I thought I'd wait for you.

O-Okay...
I'll just read something. Tell me when you get off.
That's fine. Don't worry about it.
N-No, it's nothing like that! I'll just be a little longer, so I felt bad...
I'm so un-cool...
There's nothing for me to worry about.
...

What...
You want to change jobs?
Y-Yeah...
I don't think I'm meant to work in convenience stores.
Why not?
Did something bad happen?
Huh?
Well... Not really...
Um...
But...
Try it for at least a week.
At this rate, you'll experience the same thing no matter where you work.
Yeah...
Besides, if you quit so suddenly, you'll put the manager on the spot.

What?!
I'll come see you when I have the time!
...Ah
...
Liar!! You made such a horrified face!!
N-No, no!! I'm just so happy, it showed up on my face!!
If you really don't want me to go, I won't!!
Well, then!

Destiny
AKIYAMA
ORIGINAL BREAD
オリジナルブレンド
グル
中華まん
たばこ
Boss, I finished restocking.
That was quick. Go ahead and take your break.
I'm so glad you're here.
I didn't have anyone willing to work this shift.
R-Really... I'll do my best...
I can't ask him to let me work late nights now.
At this rate, who knows when Asuka and Eba will run into each other...
Maybe... I should tell Asuka.
Ah!!
?!
JUMP

A town where you live

#122 THE BOMBSHELL GIRL RETURNS

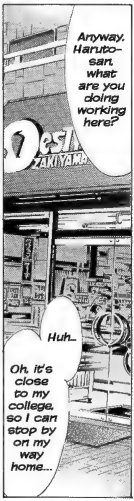
Huh?
Sorry... Who are you?
Huh?
Um...
What are you talking about? It's me...
...Rin Eba!
I have grown a little bit.
Wow, you've changed a lot. I had no idea it was you.
What?!
Rin-chan?!

You're right...
I think you have...
BOING

Y-Yeah, actually.
You're going to college?! In the area, too! Is it Seijo College?!

What a coincidence!
I'm thinking of applying next year!

Whoa...
FALL-BACK...
What are you talking about? It's my Fall-back!
You'd better study hard. We're a pretty tough school.
Oh, right. You're already in your last year of high school.


Anyway, Haruto-san, what are you doing working here?
Huh...
Oh, it's close to my college, so I can stop by on my way home...

...Ah.
By the way, Haruto-san... have you run into my sister recently?
Huh?

...Well.
Yeah.
I ran into her the other day...

Be-cause.
...my sister seems really happy lately.
DOES SHE...?
...

I See.
Um...
What made you ask?

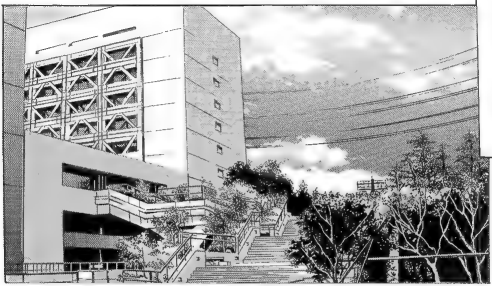
But she also said her diet had worked.
so maybe she's just happy because of that.
...Oh, really?
Anyway, are you free tomorrow, Haruto-san?
In that case, can you show me around Seijo College?!
I want to see what kind of school I'm applying to!
Huh?
Well, I don't have any plans besides work...
Wh...
What?! Show you around?!
Come on. You don't have anything to do, right, Haruto-san?

She can't be serious! How am I supposed to explain it to Asuka if she sees us?!
She's my ex's little sister!
Well...
I mean, I guess I'm free...

Hey!
Stop that!
TUG
TUG
Let's go, then. I have tomorrow off 'cause it's the anniversary of my school's founding.

...
Just wants to look around, huh...
Come on!
Isn't that okay?
I'll go home as soon as I'm done looking around!

All right!
Thank you so much!!
...Fine.
Meet me at the gates tomorrow, around 1:00...



Hey, isn't that girl super cute?
Let's go talk to her.
No way. She'd just ignore us.

It's 12:30...

CHATTER
CHATTER

I guess I'm a little early.
Haruto-san's probably still in class.
DASH
Hey!
Rin-chan, thanks for waiting!!
Ah...
You're early!
Don't you have class?

Well...
...I'd happily skip class for you, Rin-chan!!

...What?

It's Takashi!
Um... Who are you?
Can't you tell?!
Oh!
You've matured a lot since the last time I saw you.
What a surprise.
Th...
Thank you...

Huh?
Oh!
So...
Where's Haruo-san?
Something came up.
I'll be showing you around instead!
Huh?
Leave it to me! I'll take you wherever you want to go!!
...
I See.
In that case, thank you.
By the way, I don't have anything to do today. Let's get something to eat after I show you around.
No, thank you.
...Oh.
Okay.

I'm glad I got Takashi to show her around for me...

WHAT?
Are you even listening?!

I should probably tell Asuka I saw Eba.
No...
No... It's not as though anything happened, and there's no reason to make waves...
Especially now...

Sheesh...
RATTLE
RATTLE
You've been starting off into space.
Oh... sorry.
What were we talking about?
Our trip!
O-Oh, right.
I'll be busy with practice until winter.
but I can actually get some time off during the summer.
If I get a short-term job, we might be able to spend a few nights somewhere farther away.
Huh?

Yeah.
maybe.
Seriously?! Can we even go to Okinawa?!

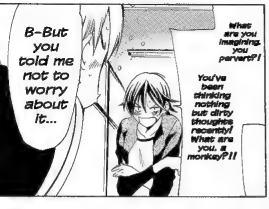
...So.
I picked up this pamphlet!
ANAスカイホリデー
沖縄
石垣島・宮古島・西表島
小浜島・久米島・伊江島

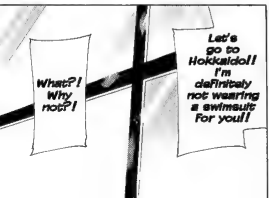
If we don't make reservations now, we won't find anywhere to stay come summer!
Ha ha. You're probably right.

Y-You're being a little hasty.
That's not true. It's almost May.

That would be nice.
...I see. Okinawa, huh...

You in a swimsuit.
Why are you suddenly smiling like that?
What are you imagining?


B-But you told me not to worry about it...
What are you imagining, you pervert?!
You've been thinking nothing but dirty thoughts recently! What are you, a monkey?!!


What?! Why not?!
Let's go to Hokkaido!! I'm definitely not wearing a swimsuit for you!!

Wha...!!

TAP
TAP
Huh...?
STAB

Wha...
Haruto-san, found you!

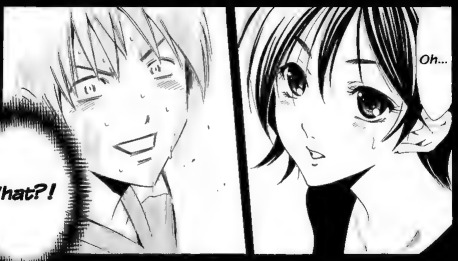
CLATTER
Argh!!
My eyes... my eyes!!
Hey... Are you okay?!
CLATTER

Rin-chan!!
You seem pretty carefree for someone so busy.
His stomach suddenly started hurting, so he went to the bathroom.
Wh... Where's Takeshi!?
I ♥ MEXICO
Oh... Are you Haruto-san's friend?
Uh...
Um...
Um... Haruto...
how do you know her...?

Nice to meet you. I'm Rin Eba.
I'm Haruto-san's ex's little sister!
Oh...
WHAT?!

A town where you live

#123 GETTING IN TROUBLE



Huh?
I ♥ MEXICO
Oh?
Yuzuki-chan has a little sister?

Oh, I see.
Nice to meet you, too.
Oh... I'm Asuka Mishima.
Nice to meet you.

She's reacting normally...
Huh?

Well... That's good, I guess.

Do you know my sister?
Yeah, I've met her a few times.

?!
"Ah, sorry"
SQUIRT
By the way, I heard you ran into her at a mixer the other day.
How's Yuzuki-chan doing?
She's being doing pretty well lately.

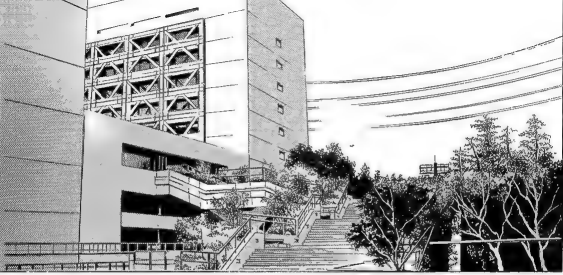
Let me tell her at a time of my choosing!!
Hey!!
Well... um... I happened to be there...

Huh...?
Y-Yeah...
You should have told me.

Is she okay with this, too?!
No way!!

Oh...
Is that true?

By the way, Rin-chan, what are you doing at our college?
Ah... That's right. Listen to this, Asuka-san.
I told Haruto-san I wanted to check out the school because I'm applying here next year...
...but he blew me off, saying he had something to do.
MEXICO
What?
Is that why you were drinking coffee here?
Isn't that mean? You should really let him have it!
But... she said it was her fault-back.
You should give her a proper tour.
We can talk about our trip anytime!
Right...



Do you think it's all right that I... said those things...
Oops.
so not just friends, then.

What?! Asuka-san's your girlfriend?!
...YEAH.

Looks like she finally learned some consideration.
It's fine. I was going to tell her eventually.

...

W-Well, maybe...
She must really trust you if she didn't get angry over that.
What:
You're right. It's your own fault for keeping things secret.
That's it. She doesn't like you that much.
That makes more sense.
Does it?!
...
Huh?
Where did that come from?
Hey, Haruto-san! How do you think those people perceived us? Do you think they thought we were a couple?
I know it!
Ha ha ha! What bad luck!

No one will think we're a couple if we're just walking together.
We're not little kids.
HMPH
How about now?
SQUISH
Hey...
Don't be stupid!!
He ha ha ha! What are you getting embarrassed for?
You're so funny!
Hey, you!!

Hey!
Asuka!!
EIJO
20
STEP
カツン
STEP
カツン
EIJO
20
Huh...
Yeah. Do you want something?
Are you finished with practice?
Rin-chan just went home.
I thought I'd come see you before going to work.

UH…
What did I do?
…

STEP
H… Hey!
…Not a thing.
SEIJO
20

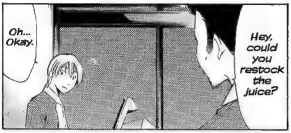
…
What's wrong, Asuka? If you want to say something, tell me!
UM…

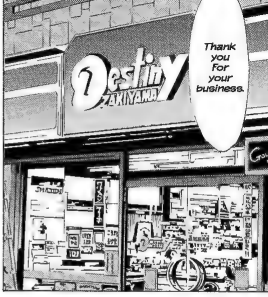
...!!
What...
I-It bothers you, after all?!
Of course it does! I can't forgive everything you do!
She just... happened to be at the mixer...
um...
I didn't want to tell you and make you worry...
Why didn't you tell me that you met Yuzuki-chan?!
SEIJ

I'm the one who told you to go...
I know it's not your fault, but...!!
I'm saying I get it!
What...
I know...
...Asuka.
But it still makes me mad!!
EIJO
20
I'm just being jealous, so forget about it!
...Um, now might not be the right time to say this, but...
EIJ

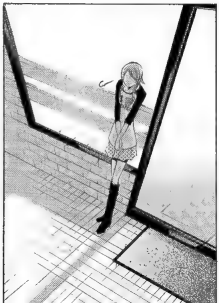
I'm kind of glad.
You actually do get jealous.
...What?
You never get mad at me, no matter what I do.
I wasn't sure if you really liked me...
So...

Huh?
What are you talking about?
Can't you tell?!
Of course I love you!!
ITO
20
Jerk!
I won't forgive you unless you buy me a pork bun!!
Later!
Ah!

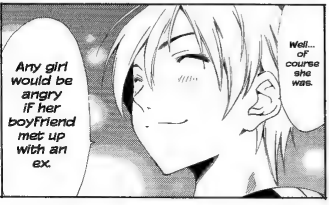

Hey, could you restock the juice?
Oh... Okay.

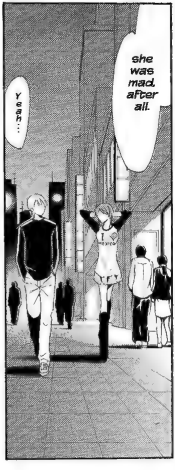

Destiny
AKIYAMA
Thank you for your business.

You, too.
CREAK
I'm going now.
Good work today.



Rin-chan...
What are you doing here?
Did... you just get off work?
I just happened to pass by.
But... I saw you standing there for a while...
...
HMPH
Well... whatever.
I'll walk you home. It's dangerous this late at night.
Wow, thanks!!
ORIGIN
オリジナ


Any girl would be angry if her boyfriend met up with an ex.
Well... of course she was.


I see...
she was mad, after all.

Huh? You think so?
You seem awfully happy despite that, Haruto-san.

DASH
There!
Hey!
Again!
Can I ask you something?
Huh..?
What is it...
Why didn't you tell her that you met my sister right away?
W-Well.
I didn't think it was worth telling her...
Tell me the truth, Haruo-san...

DO YOU REALLY LIKE HER?
ASUKA-SAN...
...WHAT?

TELL ME THE TRUTH, HARUTO-SAN... DO YOU REALLY LIKE HER?
ASUKA-SAN...
...WHAT?

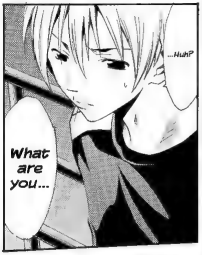
#124 A CHALLENGE

Wh-Where did that come from?
Why would you ask that?
Because it doesn't make sense.

You loved my sister so much.

Listen... She rejected me.
It would make far less sense for me to hold onto that forever.

...!


...Huh?
What are you...

But my sister...
...is single now.

Why Asuka-san?
You could've gone with Nanami-san or Akari-san.

In that case...
STEP

...
I get along with Asuka...
And...
Um... She's cute.
Well...
That's not an answer.
The other two match those same criteria.
But...
still
You're afraid my sister will reject you again.
I'm what?
You are, aren't you?
You're compromising by dating someone convenient, aren't you?
Asuka-san's rough and foul-mouthed.
I can't imagine her being your type at all.

That's enough!
...!
Don't talk about her like that when you don't even know her.
Asuka's my precious girlfriend.
Just being with her makes me really happy!
Ducky Duck
Huh?
That's nothing...
Even I could do that easily.

...
This is stupid...
Would you like to try it, then?
You won't know until you do.
I do know.
I'll give you far more fun...
...than you have with Asuka-san.
Oh. I get it. You're scared.
Of what?!

You're too scared to try.
IF you think you're having more fun with me...
...your Feelings For Asuka-san will waver.
XICO
It's Fine. You don't have to force yourself.
What?! I am not!
I don't know what you're planning, but bring it on!!
Oh, will you?
Just tell me!!
I'll take on anything you have!!

We have tomorrow off, so let's hang out together.
I'll be waiting for you in front of Baba Station at 9:00.

Well...
Let me know if you change your mind. I won't blame you.
I'll go!!
You'd better not run!

Fine! I'll go anywhere!!
In front of the station at 9:00, right?!

...

STEP
STEP

All right.
ペロッ LICK
I Did it. ♥

CLANG
CLANG
カン
カン
カン
Damn it.
What an annoying girl...
She hasn't changed at all.
She's twisted!
CLANG

Oh...
You just got home.

Asuka...
Welcome back.
CLANG
CLANG
I went to the bath downstairs.
They've got a jacuzzi. It's really relaxing.
What are you doing up at this hour?
Huh?
Anyway, did something happen? You were grumbling about something.
I had an unpleasant customer...
Oh... Well...

Tell me if you see them when I go to the convenience store!
I'll beat them up for you!! With a bat!!
Don't be stupid.
It's scary how much I suspect you'd actually do that.

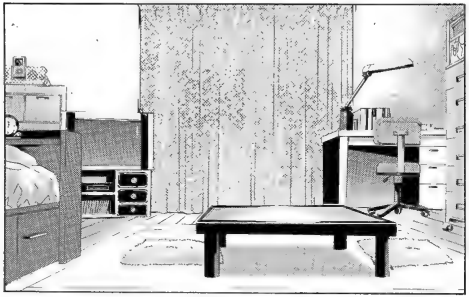
...
I See.

Asuka-san's rough and foul-mouthed...

You bought pork buns for me.
Destiny
ZAMMATA
Huh?
Well, yeah... I did promise I would.

Ah...!

Let's eat them together.
I'll make some tea, so come on in!
...Okay.



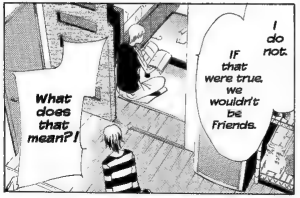
About our school.
O-Oh.
Not really...
I see.

You know, that girl...
H-huh?

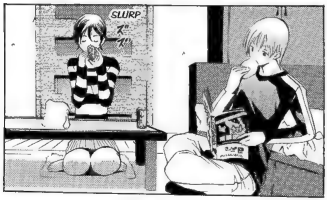
By the way,
did Rin-chan say anything?
CLATTER
CLATTER
Huh...? I like what...

...What?

Why are her breasts larger than mine even though she's younger than me?
I bet you choose your friends based on their bust size. don't you?


What does that mean?!
If that were true, we wouldn't be friends.
I do not.

CLUNK
コト…
Okay.
Bring them back once you're done reading them.


SLURP
ZZ…
ZZ…

Huh? I don't remember reading this issue.
Ah... Oh, right. I still haven't returned that.

So, anyway! In this week's Ippo, Itagaki trashes Kimima-chi!!
Don't do that!!

RATTLE
Wait!
...Ah!

You're going to spoil it, aren't you?
How did you know?
It just seemed like you were going to!

...I See.
FLIP

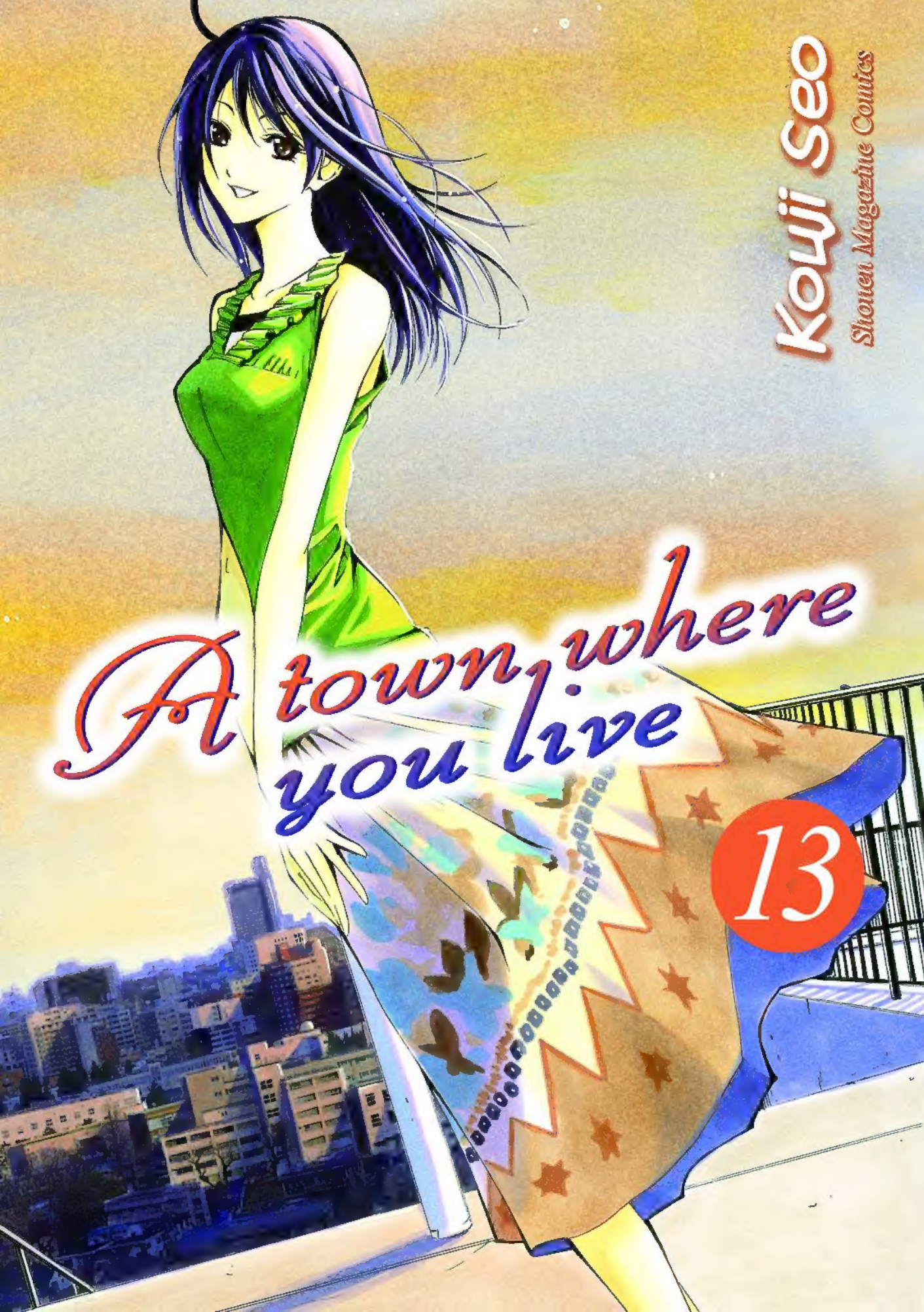
IF you're bored, watch some TV.
GOLL
No, that's okay. There's nothing I want to watch at 10:00 on a Saturday...

...Yeah.

SWISH
パタン
SWISH
パタン
Huh?
...Hey.
This is kind of nice.
Isn't it?
パラ
FLIP
Yeah.

I don't think Rin-chan would understand if I explained it to her.
...
She wouldn't get what's good about...
...this feeling only we understand.
Huh?
Oh...
By the way, Asuka, I'm going out with Rin tomorrow...

SNORE
She's already asleep...
SNORE
Even I could do that easily.
I'll give you far more fun than you have with Asuka-san.
HMPH.
I already know what will happen...
...but I guess I can play along.
CONTINUED IN VOLUME 14


Kouji Seo
Shonen Magazine Comics
A town where you live
13